



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

PRE APPLICATION OF :

MIKHAIL MARKOVICH ET AL

: EXAMINER: LILLING, H. J.

SERIAL NO: 09/886,254

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1651

FILED: JUNE 22, 2001

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FOR: L-ARGININE PRODUCING ESCHERICHIA COLI AND METHOD OF
PRODUCING L-ARGININE

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Advisory Action mailed January 31, 2003, and the Official Action dated July 25, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy to read as follows:

7. (Amended) An isolated *Escherichia coli*, which has an ability to produce and accumulate arginine in a medium when the bacterium is cultivated in the medium, and which is modified to have an enhanced ability to utilize acetate, whereby the ability to produce arginine is enhanced compared to the unmodified bacterium.

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